

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

STAY THE COURSE—DON'T TAP OUR STRATEGIC OIL RESERVES

HON. MAX SANDLIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. SANDLIN. Mr. Speaker, I welcome an apparent change in direction by Energy Secretary Bill Richardson away from draining millions of barrels of oil from the strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) in the coming weeks.

Draining the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and dumping foreign oil on our market is a dangerous precedent, both from an economic standpoint and as a national security issue. I am glad that Secretary Richardson backed down.

The Administration's strategy on dealing with rising oil prices has been unclear. Last month, Secretary Richardson indicated that the Energy Department might move to open the SPR and encourage foreign countries to dump oil on the U.S. market in an effort to reduce prices. The New York Times reported Sunday that Secretary Richardson is reluctant to open the reserves, but Time reports this week that "Richardson is quietly but vigorously pushing a proposal that would pour millions of barrels of oil from America's Strategic Petroleum Reserve onto the market in the coming weeks."

Mr. Speaker, I have been a vocal critic of plans to use oil from the SPR in response to the rising price of oil. Doing so would be extremely dangerous to our economy and our national security. The reserve was created to fill any gaps in oil supply during war or other emergencies. Using it to manage price is improper and contrary to long-standing practices.

It now appears that the White House has decided to stay the course. I have told the Administration that releasing oil from the reserves would not only threaten oil producers, but sets a dangerous precedent. Our Strategic Petroleum Reserve must be closely guarded in order to maintain our national security.

Large-scale government intervention in the oil market would hurt domestic oil producers. I know that high heating oil prices are a serious problem for working families in the Northeast, but Texas oil producers are not to blame. If we open our reserves every time the price of oil moves, we invite even more harassment from OPEC and the threat of an actual supply disruption.

Mr. Speaker, this entire episode highlights the fact that we need a national energy policy. Right now, all we do is respond to the emergency of the moment. We have no plan, no policy.

Secretary Richardson has wandered all over the map on this issue. I'm glad that good policy and reason prevailed.

President Clinton needs to take the long view of America's energy issues. I am hopeful

that the White House will focus its energy on developing a long-term energy policy that will protect American consumers and producers and while ensuring our national security.

HONORING VICTORIA CRISTIANO MARION

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize a woman who is a woman who has made a difference in her community.

Victoria Cristiano Marion was born to immigrant parents in Pueblo, Colorado. She knows that as long as there is family and education, little else matters. From the first day of school, Victoria knew that respect for education and for teachers was very important. She always knew she wanted to be a teacher and after she graduated from high school, Victoria attended summer classes at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado. She passed the state exam that qualified her to teach in Colorado.

Victoria's first teaching position was in Pueblo County at Pleasant View School. After that, she worked at Danforth School and became a full-time teacher when she received her life certificate in teaching in 1929. She taught at Bessemer for four years and then accepted a position at Strack School.

In 1943, Victoria passed the principal's exam and was appointed teacher-principal at Strack. Victoria was principal at Strack, Edison School, Washington School, Goodnight School and Sunset Park School. She retired from Sunset in 1973.

During World War II, Victoria was called upon to sponsor Italian prisoners of war who were stationed in Pueblo. She taught them about life in America and also about the democratic form of government. Many of those soldiers immigrated to the United States after the war. One of those soldiers eventually became her husband. Victoria married Vincent Marion and they shared 40 years together.

Victoria taught naturalization classes for Italians that wished to become American citizens after the war. She also helped organize the local Dante Alighieri Society, an organization dedicated to preserving the Italian language. She received the honor of Cavaliere of the Italian Republic for her many years of service to the Italian people.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I would like to offer a tribute to Victoria Cristiano Marion. She is a great American, dedicated to education and people.

HONORING MR. CLARENCE E. EGER

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. MURTHA. Mr. Speaker, this month, Mr. Clarence E. Eger marked his 50th year as a Cresson Township Supervisor.

During this half-century of public service, Mr. Eger has worked day and night on all facets of Township activity—always willing to help, and always anxious to serve the people in the region. Such service has resulted in an extremely high quality of community service.

The type of dedication to public service shown by Mr. Eger serves as a hallmark of the kind of selfless dedication and commitment that are the very heart and spirit of the United States of America. We're fortunate in our area to still have such strong commitment from so many individuals, and it's one of the characteristics that make communities like Cresson Township one of the best places to live.

It's an honor and pleasure for me to commend Mr. Eger on his 50 years of public service, and to make these remarks as a reminder to all Americans of how this type of dedication can improve the lives of so many people, produce tremendous progress in a community, and serve as the guideposts that keep our Nation the greatest in the world.

I congratulate Mr. Eger and wish him many more years of service.

IN MEMORY OF SGT. GEORGE R. DINGWALL OF THE MIDDLE- TOWN, CONNECTICUT POLICE DE- PARTMENT

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 2, 2000

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join members of the Middletown Police Department, thousands of residents of the city and his home town of Haddam, and his family in remembering Sgt. George R. Dingwall. Sergeant Dingwall was killed in the line of duty on January 28 while attempting to apprehend two burglary suspects. Sergeant Dingwall made the supreme sacrifice in order to protect residents of his community and our State.

Sergeant Dingwall was a 19-year veteran of the Middletown Police Department. After joining the force in 1981, he served in a number of capacities, including in the traffic division, as a detective and as a member of the Department's SWAT team. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1989.

George Dingwall is described by those who knew him best—his colleagues, family and

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